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*Economic Aspects of the War.* By EDWIN J. CLAPP. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1915. Pp. xiv+329.

This timely volume is of absorbing interest to all who are concerned with the development of international trade in times of peace and its maintenance in times of international stress. The able discussion of the rights of neutrals in time of war includes all countries, but because of the effect that the actions of belligerents has had upon American commerce especial attention is directed to international trade affecting this country.

In times like these it is difficult often to make just interpretation of fact and one ought, perhaps, to reserve final judgment for both sides of the question. It is startling, to say the least, to learn that Great Britain might profit in a commercial way from the interference with neutral commerce to Germany in making cotton conditional contraband of war either shipped directly to Germany or through some neutral country and by this action curtail the supply of raw material to neutral countries. England, on the other hand, securing the intercepted raw material at less than the market value manufactures it and sells it in some neutral country or even in Germany itself at monopoly prices.

The author states clearly and concisely his purpose in writing the book in his preface. He says, "It seemed to me that we Americans were paying too much attention to the affairs of the belligerents and too little to our own. This story of international lawlessness in the first year of the Great War is the outgrowth of a public lecture given in New York City, March, 1915. After all we are by no means untouched by the war. It imperils not only our present material interests but also neutral rights upon which the material interests of peaceful nations in the future depend. The neutral world is waiting for us to realize and assert its rights and ours. Hence this statement of what those rights are and this record of what seems to have occurred to threaten them."

In the opening chapter the author, in discussing the rights of neutrals, points out that what we called international law and thought of as fixed is after all only a body of precedents, some of which represent certain immunities granted by belligerents to the commerce of neutrals in time of war. It is obvious from the practice in the present struggle that this so-called law may be changed at any time and in any manner to suit the best interests of the nations concerned. Even the compelling force of morality breaks down and the disapproval of neutral nations has not been strong enough to demand respect for the established order of things. It is the opinion of the writer that greater good might have been accom-

plished if the effort that has been expended to prevent war had been put forth in restricting the damage to those engaged in battle.

The orders in council of August and October are treated in separate chapters and their effect upon neutral shipping discussed. By these orders the British government so modified the conditions of the Declaration of London as seriously to impair the rights of neutral shippers. The effect of these orders is more specifically dealt with in the chapters on the Wilhelmina case and those considering foodstuffs, copper, and cotton.

England comes in for a large amount of specific criticism; not that the author thinks England the worse offender, except that she has had better opportunity in her control of the sea to interfere with our commerce.

One of the later chapters deals with the practicability of starving Germany out. Doubt is expressed as to the possibility of ending the war by "economic pressure."

In the Appendix is found all the most important notes and orders affecting the question of international trade. The book is well written and is interesting to the business man, the student, the statesman, and the general reader.

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*The Japanese Problem in the United States.* By H. A. MILLIS.  
New York: Macmillan, 1915. Pp. xxi+334. \$1.50.

The United States cannot afford to offend the sensibilities of the people across the Pacific, especially at a time when such offense is needless and when disputed points can be settled in better ways.

This proposition receives strong support from Professor Millis. His book is based in part upon investigations made in the Pacific Coast states in 1909 for the Immigration Commission and in part upon further investigations in the Coast states in 1914.

The Japanese problem is divided into two phases: one relating to the admission of the Japanese; the other, to the treatment accorded those who are here. In regard to the first phase, the author is convinced that a narrow restriction of Japanese is necessary, because (1) standards would be lowered on the Pacific Coast, and (2) because a large Japanese immigration would lead to friction, discrimination, and would make